



# Thunderbird West Congregational News



Evan Sloan

Spring Break for most kids is usually filled with fun and relaxation hanging out and playing with friends. However not for Evan Sloan.

This year Evan enrolled in a Life Guard class to become a certified Life Guard. The class met Monday through Friday from 9 am until 4 pm for a week of intense training in and out of the pool. Before he could take the class he had to pass a fitness test which included swimming continuously for 300 yards without stopping or touching the sides of the pool. He also had to swim 20 feet from the edge of the pool go down 7 feet and pick up a 10 pound brick and bring it up to the surface keeping the brick above the water he had to then get back to the side of the pool in less than 1 minute and 45 seconds, Evan did it in 43 seconds. By the end of the week they were swimming 500 yards each day.

The last day of class Evan had to take his CPR and Life Guard exams of which he passed both with flying colors. So Evan is now a certified Life Guard and has his Red Cross CPR certification.

Evan is good with small children and animals; he has a kind heart and is usually willing to help someone out if he is asked. He is a typical teenager and enjoying life, golf, swimming, skateboarding, and of course video games.

Parkour is an activity that Evan and his friends like to do in the neighborhood. Parkour is jumping off of stationary objects such as benches, walls, trees, running to and walking up a wall etc. The more challenging the object is the more attention it gets from Parkours. Luckily no one has broken anything yet.

Recently Evan took his driver's license learners permit exam and passed the first time without even reading the Arizona MVD hand book!! He did find a site on his I POD which offered practice test which he took and studied every day.

## Pastor's Corner

Warmer weather is upon us and several families have left for their summer destinations. We will miss them, but look forward to their return all safe and sound in the fall. Many in our church family have experienced difficulties, yet through it all, each of you have continued to remain strong in your faith. I trust that God is pleased with our prayers, acts of kindness and love to each other.

As I sit at the computer and compose this article, I look at the calendar and wonder how the time went by so fast. Believing this makes it seem smart to get more serious about accomplishing the goals that we set as a congregation. We are always entering a new time. And while new times and the possibility for new life are exciting, they may also include grief for the "old times" we fear we may leave behind. We can dwell on missed opportunities, but God doesn't hold the past against us. God is more concerned about the future and how wisely we use the time and opportunities that we have to share the Gospel.

As we move forward from the old into the new, it is important to remember that we are not forgetting the past, but gaining a newer and clearer objective. We are not forgetting our history, but instead are being faithful to it. We must lift our gaze from the daily grind to our future calling, from our tasks of business to matters of the Spirit, from being on committees to doing ministry and trusting in our hope.

For the Christian, the first day of the New Year should be the day after Pentecost. After spending the forty days of Lent up to and including Easter thinking about what Christ gave for us, maybe we should think about what we can give up for Him and make some resolutions. On Sunday, May 23, we'll celebrate Pentecost, the birthday of the church. The season after Pentecost is centered on sanctification the work of the Holy Spirit in the day-to-day life of the Christian. Through the gift of faith that comes from the Holy Spirit, Christians are enabled to trust in Christ and proclaim Him in their daily lives by service to their neighbors.

God's wonderful gift of Jesus at Christmas and His coming through the crucifixion alive would be of no value to us if the Holy Spirit did not give us the gift of faith. Through scripture, prayer and the sacraments, we are given the power to live for Christ.

As we focus on this year of transition, your leaders will do their best to keep everything at church functioning smoothly. Sometimes there will be hiccups, but on the whole, we will move forward. I strongly believe a church should be a place where we can find spiritual nourishment. It should have something for everyone. I'm confident that together we will do this. I welcome your input, ideas and prayers for this combined effort.

Mike Alexander, Pastor

### Presiding Elder:

**Mike Alexander**  
623-556-5084

### Counselors:

**Judy Bradish**  
602-938-6029

**Dan Edwards**  
623-975-2450

**Jared Ingram**  
623-974-3099

### Sustained Duties

#### Financial/Book Steward & Recorder

**Carrol McCans**  
623-975-8317

### Historian:

**Ruth Anderson**  
623-975-2924

### Congregation Secretary

**Eldora Engebretson**  
623-566-9299

### Commissioners:

#### Christian Education:

**Mike Alexander**  
623-556-5084

#### Communication:

**Newsletter & Website**  
**Eldora Engebretson**  
**Bulletins**  
**Madelyn Edwards**

#### Facilities:

**Mike Alexander**  
623-556-5084

#### Leadership & Outreach:

**Bob Ballew**  
623-584-9835

#### Pastoral Care:

**Diane Sloan**  
623-561-0135  
**Lee Swick**  
623-825-2508

#### Special Events:

**Dan Edwards**  
623-975-2450

#### Webmaster:

**Paris Featherstone**  
623-299-4214

#### Worship:

**Mike Alexander**  
623-556-5084

#### Youth:

**Donna Greenwalt**  
602-536-3204

### Community Outreach

Just a brief reminder that if you have items of clothing not being worn any longer, or a piece or two of furniture you no longer want, pick up your phone and call:

LeeAnn Corless  
623-329-0770

She will make arrangements to come to your home to p/u clothing, furniture, etc. She works with her mother, Norietta Corless, helping those individuals who are less fortunate, and women in possible abusive relationships (who might need assistance and encouragement to go out and find a job).

Thanks for your generous participation with donations of food, and checks made out to the Valley View Community Food Bank (in Youngtown), during the months of March and April. This represents our co-operation with the Alan Feinstein \$1M Challenge to Feed the Hungry of the World. I will let you know the totals sometime in May.

Eilene Speer, Community Outreach Commissioner

### Fellowship & Games

The first Friday Game Night was held at TBW on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April. Lots of laughter was heard in the Fellowship Hall as 28 of our congregation enjoyed playing several different games. It was decided to hold a game night on Friday so that members of the congregation who work or go to school can attend. It is a great way to get to know people that we usually only see on Sunday. A light snack will be the normal fare, with plans for occasional potlucks in the future.

It was decided that we will meet at the church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month at 6:30 PM. There will be games available for all ages so please bring the whole family and join in the fun and fellowship. Next Friday Game Night is on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Eldora Engebretson

### Pastoral Care Shepherding Program

We are well into the Shepherding Program. We have some who would like to remain with the same families and we have families that are leaving us. As Winter Residence/Visitors they are going back home. So we will continue with the same assignments through the end of April.

At that time we will review for some changes in the program. Thank you so much for your loving support and activity. We have had some very positive comments so far. We will let you know how we will go forward before the end of April.

In Christ's love and ministry,  
Lee Swick Pastoral Care

Dear Lord, thank You for the gifts of love, comfort, laughter, and countless blessings. Amen

**CRABBY OLD MAN**

When an old man died in the geriatric ward of a nursing home in North Platte, Nebraska, it was believed that he had nothing left of any value.

Later, when the nurses were going through his meager possessions, they found this poem. Its quality and content so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital. One nurse took her copy to Missouri.

The old man's sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas edition of the News Magazine of the St. Louis Association for Mental Health. A slide presentation has also been made based on his simple, but eloquent, poem.

And this little old man, with nothing left to give to the world, is now the author of this 'anonymous' poem winging across the Internet.

Remember this poem when you next meet an older person who you might brush aside without looking at the young soul within. We will all, one day, be there, too! The best and most beautiful things of this world can't be seen or touched. They must be felt by the heart.

What do you see nurses?  
 What do you see?  
 What are you thinking when you're looking at me?  
 A crabby old man not very wise,  
 Uncertain of habit with faraway eyes?  
 Who dribbles his food and makes no reply.  
 When you say in a loud voice 'I do wish you'd try!'  
 Who seems not to notice the things that you do.  
 And forever is losing A sock or shoe?  
 With bathing and feeding The long day to fill?  
 Is that what you're thinking?  
 Is that what you see?  
 Then open your eyes, nurse you're not looking at  
 me.

I'll tell you who I am. As I sit here so still,  
 As I do at your bidding as I eat at your will.  
 I'm a small child of Ten with a father and mother,  
 Brothers and sisters who love one another.

A young boy of Sixteen with wings on his feet.  
 Dreaming that soon now a lover he'll meet.  
 A groom soon at Twenty my heart gives a leap.  
 Remembering, the vows that I promised to keep.

At Twenty-Five, now I have young of my own.  
 Who need me to guide and a secure happy home.

A man of Thirty my young now grown fast,  
 Bound to each other with ties that should last.

At Forty, my young sons have grown and are gone,  
 But my woman's beside me to see I don't mourn.  
 At Fifty, once more, babies play 'round my knee,  
 Again, we know children My loved one and me.

Dark days are upon me my wife is now dead.  
 I look at the future shudder with dread.  
 For my young are all rearing young of their own.  
 And I think of the years and the love that I've  
 known.

I'm now an old man and nature is cruel.  
 Tis jest to make old age look like a fool.  
 The body, it crumbles grace and vigor, depart.  
 There is now a stone where I once had a heart.

But inside this old carcass a young guy still dwells,  
 And now and again my battered heart swells.  
 I remember the joys I remember the pain.  
 And I'm loving and living life over again.

I think of the years, all too few gone too fast.  
 And accept the stark fact that nothing can last.  
 So open your eyes, people open and see.  
 Not a crabby old man Look closer see ME!!

## Worship Commission

Thank you for the enthusiasm and willingness to participate in the worship services this year. Whether you have been in the congregation or up front and have come spiritually prepared, they have been vibrant and have resonated well with the members. I know this to be true because there are always several comments of positive confirmation after the services. Not all of the services are going to be equally intense or satisfying for every person every Sunday. However, the goal for the commission is to provide enough variety in the substance of the services that there will be something that is uplifting and enjoyable for all who attend church. The worship service is the reason we come to church. We love to see and talk to all of our friends and provide support, however the primary goal is to worship and praise God.

From the worship resources we read that, "During the past decades, we've enjoyed increased creativity in worship planning and a wider base of participation to explore and experience widely varied styles of music, drama, preaching, prayer and meditation." I haven't been here quite a decade yet, but it does seem that there has been a good effort made to plan in this manner. We have to remember that if one person is touched in a way that will make their life better, we all have been successful.

A service is successful when it makes people feel welcome and when a flexible balance is attained between spontaneity and ritual. Thank you for your response and willingness to say yes when asked to participate in services.

Mike Alexander

## Audio-Visual Improvements

The Audio-Visual Committee is in the process of moving ahead on improvements to the audio-visual systems at the church. In order to facilitate this, the committee is in the process of interviewing and soliciting bids from companies who specialize in audio-visual systems. It is our hope to get information and bids from two or three companies. When the interviewing process is completed, the committee will present the information to the congregation for input and selection.

Once the selection process is completed the committee would like to be in a position to move forward as soon as it is feasibly possible. In order to do this, we need to start raising funds for the project. And though the committee does not yet have information as to the final cost, donations for this project would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to start your donations immediately, that would be great. Be sure to mark Audio-Visual on your envelope.

Thanks! Madelyn Edwards

*Try not to be so busy that you miss the many small gifts that God's offering you today. Take time to enjoy life. Each moment is a tiny treasure, filled with new blessings from the God who loves you.*

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" The son replied, "I do know!" "Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?" "That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information before Leaving Earth."

### Youth Happenings

Summer camps are coming up. Kids entering 4<sup>th</sup> grade up to 12<sup>th</sup> grade are eligible to attend. Please see me or the mission center web site for registration. The sooner you get registered, the better as the prices will go up.

In preparation for the craft sale, I will be having a craft day once a month after worship service and lunch. Anyone who would like to participate just needs to show up at 1 pm. We will spend about 2 hours each craft session. You are welcome to stay the entire time or only part of it.

The first one will be on May 23 and we will be assembling note cards. Supplies will be provided.

The second one will be June 27<sup>th</sup>, craft yet to be determined.

If anyone has any ideas for easy to assemble craft items, let me know.

One of the ideas I has was soup jars with decorative lids.

Also, if you are crafty please feel free to work on some items at home for donation. I do have the space for storing completed items.

The Craft and bake sale will be held on November 20<sup>th</sup> from 8 am – 2pm. This date allows for some fall craft items also. I would like to keep the focus heavy on the craft items and not the baked goods for this date.

I will also have an additional craft and bake sale on December 11, during the live nativity, which will be smaller and focus primarily on the baked goods.

Please be thinking ahead to the live nativity as many people are required to help make this a success.

These are the areas that need assistance:

Santa

Nativity reenactment/scene

Advertising

Kitchen

There can be more than one person in each area as there are many facets to each. I would like to have one person coordinating each section and getting others to help with the actual activity/planning. I will start having short planning/progress meetings in September. Please see me if you can assist with any area.

Thanks! Donna

#### Directory Corrections & Updates

Fisher, Paul & Joan  
18626 N. Spanish Garden Apt 361  
Sun City West, AZ 85375  
623-584-0769

Silverthorn, Ron & Dulcy  
37600 S. Camino Blanco Rd.  
Wickenburg, AZ 85390  
928-684-7143  
Ron: 816-500-7265  
Dulcy: 816-500-7264

#### AZ Mission Center Contacts

Dale Luffman, Apostle  
West Central Field  
800.825.2806 ext. 3028

Dave Nii, Apostolic Assistant  
West Central Field  
303.870.2589  
dnii@cofchrist.org

Mike Hoffman  
Mission Center President  
Cell: 480.280.8555  
mhoffman@cofchrist.org

Diana Hansen  
Mission Center Financial Officer  
520.991.4708  
diana@thetucsonhansens.com

**May - June Schedule****May****2 - "Minister through Love"****Communion Service**

P/P John Walton  
 Speaker Lee Swick  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Bob Anderson & Merilee DuFault  
 PA Eldora Engebretson  
 Greeters Howard & Darlene Baldwin  
 Hall Monitor Ron Silverthorn

**9 - "Bring Glory & Honor to God"****Mother's Day**

P/P Dan & Madelyn Edwards  
 Speaker Dan & Madelyn Edwards  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Ken & Awilda Thomas  
 PA Kyle Brittan  
 Greeters Lloyd & Leila Bierer  
 Hall Monitor Judi Walton

**16 - "To the Ends of the Earth"**

P/P Mike Alexander  
 Speaker Chuck Lundeen  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Carrol McCans & Amber Sloan  
 PA Vicki Alexander  
 Greeters Dennis & Lois Nelson  
 Hall Monitor Genie Perigo

**23 - "The Spirit is in Us"**

P/P Lee Swick  
 Speaker Eldred Spain  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Vicki Alexander & Merilee DuFault  
 PA Kyle Brittan  
 Greeters Dena Perrine & Genie Perigo  
 Hall Monitor Ron or Bonnie League

**30 - "Memorial Day"**

P/P Eldora Engebretson & Brenda Jones  
 Speaker Remembrance & Music  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Judy Bradish & Betty Nunn  
 PA Tom Bradish  
 Greeters Jared & Wanda Ingram  
 Hall Monitor Alyce Wingard

**June****6 - "Touch Me, Lord"****Communion Service**

P/P Bob Anderson  
 Speaker Scott Sloan  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Dennis & Lois Nelson  
 PA Eldora Engebretson  
 Greeters Ken & Awilda Thomas  
 Hall Monitor Sarah Walsh

**13 - "Go in Peace"**

P/P Heather Featherstone  
 Speaker Kyle Brittan  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Bob Anderson & Merilee DuFault  
 PA Vicki Alexander  
 Greeters Jim & Sarah Walsh  
 Hall Monitor Leila & Lloyd Bierer

**20 - "Joy Declare God to All"****Father's Day**

P/P Sharon Davids  
 Speaker Chris Fox  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Ken & Awilda Thomas  
 PA Eldora Engebretson  
 Greeters Archie & Betty Nunn  
 Hall Monitor Carrol McCans

**27 - "Proclaim the Kingdom of God"****4<sup>th</sup> of July Program**

P/P Madelyn Edwards  
 Speaker  
 Pianist Ruth Anderson  
 Deaconing Kyle Brittan & Evan Sloan  
 PA Tom Bradish  
 Greeters Clyde & Lee Swick  
 Hall Monitor Lois Nelson

**Schedulers:**

Worship Mike Alexander  
 Piano/Organ Heather Featherstone  
 Choir, Solos & Choral Groups Connie Denton  
 Deaconing & PA Eldora Engebretson  
 Greeters Irene Clark  
 Hall Monitor Judi Walton

**Abbreviations:**

P/P: Planner/Presider TBA: To Be Announced

## SHERRELL'S LEMON LUSH

1 CUP PLAIN FLOUR  
1 STICK MELTED MARGARINE  
1 TABLESPOON SUGAR  
1 ½ CUPS CHOPPED NUTS

MIX AND SPREAD IN A 9 X 13 BAKING DISH AND BAKE FOR 20 MINUTES @ 350. COOL COMPLETELY.

### 2<sup>ND</sup> LAYER

1 CUP SUGAR  
1 CUP COOL WHIP  
8 OZ. SOFTENED CREAM CHEESE

BLEND AND SPREAD ON TOP OF CRUST.

### 3<sup>RD</sup> LAYER

2 SMALL PKGS. INSTANT LEMON PUDDING MIX  
3 OR 4 CUPS MILK  
MIX AS ON PACKAGE DIRECTIONS

SPREAD ON TOP OF 2<sup>ND</sup> LAYER. TOP WITH COOL WHIP. MIX 1 CUP COCONUT AND ¾ CUP CHOPPED NUTS AND SPREAD ON TOP. CHILL AND ENJOY.



Thunderbird West  
5035 West Paradise Ln  
Glendale, Arizona 85306